

**HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.
EXPORTING SILVER DOLLARS.**

A Chinese woman was charged with attempting to export eighteen silver dollars.

It was stated that defendant, who was arrested on the Lee Koo Wharf, informed the *Magistrate* that she came to Hongkong to collect debts due to her.

Mr. J. R. Wood inflicted a nominal fine of \$1 and advised defendant to change the silver into notes.

CHINESE ADMIRAL IN COURT.

Liu Hon Hong, described as an Admiral of Lung Chai-kwong's fleet, was charged, on remand, with aiding and abetting an armed robbery at Wanchai recently.

Mr. E. J. Grist, who appeared for defendant, applied for bail.

Inspector Sim said he had been instructed to suggest a substantial bail.

Mr. Wolfe remanded the case until next week, fixing bail at \$1,500.

OPIUM CASES.

A Chinese youth pleaded guilty to being in unlawful possession of one tael and three mace of opium dross.

It was stated that defendant was arrested on the Hop Tack Wharf with the opium dross in his hand. He was searched, and several other pots of opium were discovered, concealed within a belt.

Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe fined defendant \$100, with the alternative of a month's hard labour.

A Chinese was charged with being in unlawful possession of 24 taels of prepared opium and 4 lbs. of raw opium.

Defendant said the opium belonged to a friend who came with him on the same steamer from Singapore.

Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe fined defendant \$1,100, with the alternative of five months' hard labour.

**HARBOURING A MARRIED
WOMAN.**

A Chinese was charged with harbouring a married woman.

Mr. R. E. Lindsell, of the Secretariat for Chinese Affairs, said the complainant, the husband of the woman, was adopted by an "uncle" who had no children. When the boy grew to manhood he married a woman chosen by his parents, and about a year ago, in deference to the wishes of his uncle, he entered into a second marriage with the woman in the case in order to raise up issue for his uncle's house. They lived happily for a year. Then defendant met the woman and they both suddenly disappeared. They were traced to Hongkong. The case was an unusual one. Defendant stated that the woman came of her own free will. She was married to the husband as *pin chai*. It was a legal marriage and recognised by the Supreme Court as following the manners and customs of China. It was similar to a *little* marriage.

Mr. J. R. Wood remanded the case till to-day.

**IMPERSONATING A POLICE
OFFICER.**

A Chinese was charged with impersonating a police officer and with extorting money from another Chinese.

Complainant said he arrived in Hongkong from Canton on Monday morning with the intention of visiting several firms. On his arrival he purchased two pots of opium, and went to a boarding-house. While he was smoking, defendant entered his cubicle and charged him with being in unlawful possession of opium. Defendant, representing himself as a police officer, threatened to arrest complainant if he did not offer him some "cushaw." Complainant demurred, saying that he had no money. Defendant then took the two pots of opium and was going away when an alarm was raised and some of the other boarders managed to arrest defendant.

Defendant denied that he demanded any money, saying that complainant was an old friend of his and had presented him with the two pots of opium.

Mr. J. R. Wood sentenced defendant to three months' hard labour.

GERMAN'S GRIM ADMISION.

Mr. Philip Gibbs writes:—It was a German officer taken in our recapitulation of Ayette on April 3rd, when an adjutant, three company commanders, and other officers were caught in the cellars by the quick rush of our assault, who said the most tragic thing about the battle for which joy-bells were being rung in Germany. One of our officers said to him: "You have gained a good deal of ground lately," and the German officer looked up with haunted eyes, and his answer was: "We shall want all the ground we can get to bury our dead."

**STABBED FIVE TIMES.
MAN ARRESTED ON SUSPICION.**

A Chinese male night-soil carrier was removed to the Government Civil Hospital on Monday, suffering from five stab wounds in the hand and body.

The body was picked up in Des Vaux Road West near Salt Fish Lane.

A man has been arrested in connection with the crime.

**DROWNING FATALITY.
INDIAN CONSTABLE TO THE
RESCUE.**

The Police have received a report of a drowning accident which occurred on the 26th instant at Ung Long Creek. A youth, seventeen years of age, accompanied by a friend, went for a swim in the creek. The youth suddenly got beyond his depth and was noticed disappearing. His companion raised an alarm, and an Indian constable, who was near the place, jumped into the water to effect a rescue. He made several efforts to discover the body, and at last succeeded in bringing it to the surface. Artificial respiration was resorted to but proved unavailing. The youth remained unconscious and died a few minutes later.

**CIGARETTE AND TOBACCO
FUND.**

The following is the subscription list to date:

Acknowledged to 8th April, 1918.....\$20,919.17

Since received:—

Kowloon Customs Staff,

per Mr. H. Markham,

Jan., Feb., March,

April.....\$ 53.00

Mr. C. Harman.....20.00

Percentage of sweep on

Piffle match at King's

Park.....6.00

M.S.S. sub. May.....5.00

Mr. F. G. Beeke, Wham-

poa, sub., April.....20.00

Anonymous, per S. C.

Morning Post.....1.00

Mr. A. B. Easton, per

Royal Hongkong Golf

Club.....4.28

Mr. Frank C. Todd.....5.00

"Lucky Numbers" (from

Messrs Kuhn & Komor) 15.40

Collected by Mrs. T.

Arthur, List No. 10.....408.00

Collected by Mrs. T.

Arthur, List No. 11.....398.70

.....\$922.39

.....\$922.39

Expended to 8th

April, 1918.....\$96,627.09

Since expended:—

350,000 cigarettes sent

to the troops at the

front, 9,000 cigarettes

and 800 cigars

for local troops.....1,169.99

.....27,707.08

Balance in hand.....\$ 44.48

W. A. DOWLEY,

(Hon. Sec. and Treasurer).

Hongkong, 28th May, 1918.

AUSTRIAN VIEW OF ALSACE

An important speech by Dr. Lammasch in the Austrian Upper House, on February 27th, is reproduced in "The New Europe." Dr. Lammasch, who was president of The Hague Tribunal, and has helped to found the Neue Politische Gesellschaft, to convert to Liberalism, spoke on a vote of confidence in Count Czernin for his achievements in pursuit of "an honourable and lasting peace." He denounced the jingo sentiments of Dr. Pfaller, which he said were not those of the Austrian people, and, referring to the parallel drawn by Count Czernin between Trieste and Strassburg, said he could not accept this parallel. Trieste was a vital necessity to Austria, while Strassburg was an extremely valuable and beautiful city, like so many other cities of Germany. He might even venture to say that Trieste in Austrian possession was more important to Germany than Strassburg in German possession.

However that may be, we are bound to defend Strassburg and to maintain the territorial position of the German Empire. But it does not follow that we are obliged to make further demands on our strength in order to perpetuate the pre-war constitutional conditions in Alsace-Lorraine. (Disent.) If a peace were possible on condition that Alsace-Lorraine become an independent Federal State, with all the rights appertaining to such a State, and with a constitution freely decided by the people, there would be no reason for us to continue the war in order that Alsace-Lorraine should remain a Reichsland with a preponderating Prussian administration. (Lively dissent.) There are signs that our opponents would be satisfied with such concessions, and taking all our circumstances into consideration, the solution of transforming Alsace-Lorraine into an independent Federal State would be congenial to Austrian ideas. Conquests are expressly negated by the declared policy of our Foreign Office. It has solemnly identified itself with the policy of "no annexations." The so-called peace of victory would be an evil peace. (Disent.) It would be a mere armistice prior to a more horrible clash of arms.

**THE IMPRUDENT PRINCE.
WHAT IT COSTS TO BE A
GENTLEMAN.**

[By "A.A.M."]

It costs a good deal to be a gentleman in Germany, as Prince Lichnowsky has just discovered.

Prince Lichnowsky was German Ambassador in Great Britain from 1912-1914. His qualifications for the post were unique; he was a German gentleman. To be more exact he was a Silesian Pole. "We Germans will never be gentlemen," a German authority has said, but there may be lapses among nominal Germans. At any rate when a gentleman was wanted for Ambassador, the rumour that one had been found in Silesia was promptly acted upon, and Prince Lichnowsky was despatched to London.

In 1912 Germany had already decided upon the Great War. Probably she had fixed the actual date, for it was necessary to wait for the opening of the enlarged Kiel Canal, and that was due in the summer of 1914. It was the Ambassador's business in London to keep England quiet for those two years. The best way to do this was to pretend to be working for an Anglo-German understanding. The best Anglo-German understanding was one which had no need to pretend, but honestly thought that it was his business to bring England and Germany together; a straightforward and gentlemanly acceptance of the British.

Such a man was Prince Lichnowsky. Unsuspecting of what was coming, he could be relied on to work for an understanding with an equally unsuspecting England, while back at Berlin the German Government chuckled to itself and prepared for The Day. How could the British Government suspect so obviously honest a man as Prince Lichnowsky?

When war was inevitable, the German Ambassador was asked if England would come in. He said "No." What else could he say? He had looked at England with the eyes of a peace-lover; he and Sir Edward Grey had been working together for peace; he had put the thought of war between Germany and England far away from him. So he said, "No," and England came in; and Prince Lichnowsky went back to Germany in disgrace.

His crime was that he had deceived the German Government as to England's intentions. He might have retorted that the German Government had deceived him as to Germany's intentions. He was an honest gentleman and his Government had taken advantage of the fact. For two years he remained silent, and then he put down on paper something of his private feelings.

The world knows now that owing to the "indiscipline" of a friend those private feelings became public. There was nothing in them to surprise the world outside Germany, but the German people naturally wanted an explanation. It has fallen to the Vice-Chancellor to give it.

The Vice-Chancellor explains (presumably the Chancellor was exhausted after his recent explanation of the Russian situation and had to leave it to his Deputy) that the Prince had "apparently received from a third and wrongly-informed quarter inaccurate information." Moreover, he had tendered his resignation of his present rank, and "as he had doubtless no bad intention, but had simply been guilty of imprudence" nothing further would be done in the matter.

Doubtless the Prince had no bad intention. Indeed his only intention was to be an honest man. He had simply been guilty of imprudence. He had been imprudent enough to be honest and a gentleman, whilst still in the service of the German Government. As a result he has lost his rank, and is more in disgrace than ever. It most certainly does not pay to be an honest gentleman in Germany.

However, Prince Lichnowsky was spared one thing. He was imprudent and wrongly-informed, but he was not told, as was Dr. Muehlen, that he was suffering from neurasthenia. Dr. Muehlen, an ex-director of Krupp's, had made a statement in regard to a conference which he had with two exalted personages in July, 1914, from which it appeared that it was not the intention of the German Government to maintain peace. The Vice-Chancellor again obliges with an explanation. No importance could be attached to the statements, since the two gentlemen referred to had denied making the statements attributed to them. (A simple-minded man, the Vice-Chancellor.) But then how came Dr. Muehlen to make his statement? The answer is easy. Says the Vice-Chancellor, "Dr. Muehlen was suffering from neurasthenia at the time."

So it seems that there are two honest gentlemen in Germany. One of them is imprudent; the other is obviously suffering from neurasthenia. Doubtless neither of them had any bad intention, but their example is certainly worth avoiding in Germany.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS ISSUED BY MR. P. C. JENKIN, C.B.E.

SEARCH SUPERVISORS.

All Visiting and Working Officers of this

Squad will meet at Headquarters

Office at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May

30th.

SERVICE RIFLES.

Members of No. 1 Platoon who have not

yet done so will draw rifles at Central

Armoury between 5.30 and 6 p.m. on

Wednesday, May 29th.

PARADES.

Units will parade at Central Station at

5.45 p.m. Uniform, helmets, and

spikes.

Wednesday, May 29th—No. 1 Section.

Thursday, May 30th—No. 2 Platoon.

Friday, May 31st—No. 2 Section at Water

Police Station.

JOINED.

No. 2 Section—P.C. 451 A. C. Pike.

Band—P.C. 453 A. C. Servignon.

By Order.

T. F. HONAN.

A.S.P. (R.) and Adjutant.

May 28th, 1918.

**MUSKETRY AND EYESIGHT.
SOME NOTES ON INSTRUCTION.**

[By A MUSKETRY OFFICER.]

One is very far from being finished with the eyes of a recruit when he has passed the eyesight test on joining the army.

He himself will suddenly discover them again when he comes to do his musketry course, and to the musketry officer they are a continual problem. For he knows that their men's eyes are put to a use to which they are quite unaccustomed. For the first time in their lives, probably, they have to look steadily at a small thing with great concentration.

He knows also that two things are likely to happen. A man with good eyes may begin to wonder if they are weak, particularly if such a possibility is suggested to him. He may begin to think it, simply because his eyes tire very quickly under this unaccustomed work of concentration on a small thing; and so an instructor has to be continually telling men that the eye needs rest because it is doing new work.

On the other hand, men who were unconscious that their eyes were not normal, and who could pass the oculist's test card without difficulty, will discover their weakness at musketry. You might have been content all your life to see a thing in the distance a little blurred (you might even not have known that it was blurred), but you are not content with that. You become very conscious of your weakness when you have to fix the thing clearly and firmly with the foresight.

With these things in his mind an instructor has to be continually watchful of the eyes of his recruits. He can test their trigger pressure, or the steadiness of their aim without difficulty. The one thing that he cannot actually test, but the one thing it is most interesting to know, is how they see things. He does not want to make them fidgety, to set them thinking about their eyes when they ought to be thinking of something else; but in many indirect ways, by a fire order, by getting them to judge distance he can get some idea of how they see a thing.

He will make many interesting discoveries. He will come across odd cases like a man who was told that he would be put back for a course, and who, to the astonishment of the officer, said that he had a pair and produced them from his pocket. When asked why on earth he did not wear them he answered very seriously that they had cost him a guinea and that he wasn't going to run any risk of having them broken. He will find, too, how very careless men are with their eyes and how little they understand of them.

In the early days of the war very many men who wore glasses left them off in order to join the army, not knowing that the army order which made it impossible for a man with glasses to enlist had been cancelled. Some, no doubt, would for that same reason do their best to conceal their weakness from the musketry officer, but others did genuinely seem to expect that though they had needed glasses for all the ordinary business of life they ought for some unknown reason to be able to shoot without them.

It is such cases as those that bring the musketry officer to the final and not the least interesting of his discoveries. Knowing himself how impossible it is for him to test a man's eyes, he will have gone cautiously to work, fearing that any man who wished to shirk would be quick to see the opportunity, and that men would be only too ready to excuse carelessness or bad shooting by putting it down to their eyes. It is with that feeling that he would begin, and then to his surprise he would discover that his difficulty was all the other way, that so far from men exaggerating any weakness of the eyes it was the hardest thing in the world to get them to confess to it. Whether it is that they are afraid they will affect their position in the army, or that there is some odd feeling of shame about weakness of the eyes, or simply that men are careless and ignorant about it, the fact remains that they will not confess to it unless they are forced.

It is this reluctance, more than anything else, that a musketry officer has to bear in mind when he is taking stock of his recruits.

COST OF THE ARMY.

LOSSES FROM FRAUD AND WASTE.

In 1916-17, according to the appropriation account, the net cost of the Army was £587,795,567, compared with £536,712,604 in the previous year. Below are the figures under the principal heads of expenditure:—

Pay and allowances.....£122,443,423

Supplies and clothing.....251,788,423

Quartering transport and

remounts.....95,842,537

Ordnance establishments

and stores.....38,386,804

Armaments, engineer

stores, and aviation.....28,430,733

Works and buildings.....27,401,055

Medical establishments.....9,844,898

Separation allowances absorbed

£27,843,410, against £52,870,267 in

1915-16.

Losses due to fraud, theft, arson, or gross negligence amounted to as much as £153,230, and other losses regarded as irrecoverable are put at £562,357, a total of 195 items are enumerated under these heads. The approximate amounts of store and cash losses sustained through the fall of Kuchinara were £20,648 and £27,718 respectively.

Various items in the account are the subject of criticism by the Auditor-General. A board of two Treasury representatives and a War Office official express the view that the whole system of Army pay, allowances, etc., requires simplification, and as an outcome of this the Treasury have pressed the War Office to consent to the appointment of a small committee to consider the whole question of accounting in the Army Pay Office. The matter is still the subject of correspondence between the departments.

LANE, CRAWFORD

AND COMPANY.

WE ARE NOW STOCKING A CHOICE SELECTION OF

HALL-MARKED
STERLING SILVER GOODS

SUITABLE

WEDDING. COMPLIMENTARY AND
CHRISTENING PRESENTS.

CAKE STANDS.

SALVERS.

BON BON DISHES.

CLARET JUGS.

FLOWER VASES.

TEA AND COFFEE

SERVICES.

CIGARETTE BOXES.

PUFF JARS.

Etc.



WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED A NICE SELECTION OF

ARTICLES IN ELECTRO-PLATE

AGENTS FOR

COMMUNITY PLATE.

"THE ARISTOCRAT OF THE DINING TABLE."

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Makes Boiler Cleaning Easy**MEXICAN BOILER GRAPHITE**

"Makes Boiler Cleaning Easy." Introduced with boiler feed water, this graphite disintegrates and breaks down old scale. After boiler is cleaned, the graphite circulating with water keeps any new scale matter in soft condition. 100-lb. kegs, 400-lb. barrels.

THE UNITED STATES GRAPHITE CO.

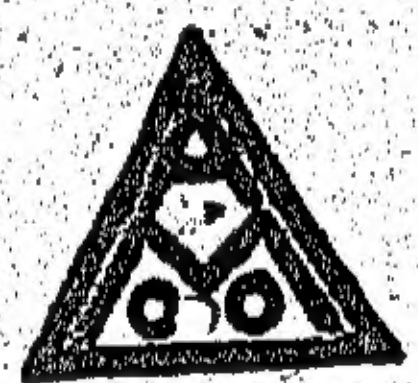
is now represented in China with a complete line of lubricating graphites, greases, foundry fixings and automobile lubricants.



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Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.

Hotel Mansions, Missions Building,
HONGKONG. CANTON.

**Powell Ltd**

TELEPHONE 346

BE COOL

By wearing our loose fitting

SUMMER UNDERWEAR.

We have now a large assortment including



"FLEXINET" "AERTEX" "SOFTTESTNET"

"INDIAN GAUZE" "B.V.D."

INSPECTION INVITED.

WAI KEE.**FLAG & SAILMAKER.**

No. 123, Des Vaux Road Central,

Top Floor,

HONGKONG.

Telephone No. 1893.

ON SALE.

BOUND VOLUMES of the HONGKONG
WEEKLY PRESS, 1917.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS



NOTICE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that, in consequence of the continued absence of rain in sufficient quantity to replenish the gravitation reservoirs and one of the new pumping engines at Taitam Tuk being unavailable for service, it is necessary to curtail the supply of water to the Rider Main District.

On and after the 29th instant and until further notice, a supply to such Districts will be given by Public Fountains only.

W. CHATHAM,
Water Authority.

Public Works Department,
Hongkong, 28th May, 1918. [2038]

KONINKLYKE PAKETVAART
MAATSCHAPPY.

FOR SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

THE Steamship.

"VAN OVERSTRATEN" will leave for a one port about 10th June. Cargo accepted for Belawan Deli (Sumatra) without transhipment.

Excellent accommodation for First and Second Class Passengers.
For Full Particulars apply to—
JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN LLN,
Agents, K.P.M.
Hongkong, 28th May, 1918. [2039]

CARVALHO & CO.

WE HAVE This Day appointed Mr. EDWARD JOSEPH NORONHA to be the Manager of Our Firm and have authorised him to Sign our Firm Name per Procuration.

CARVALHO & CO.
Hongkong, 28th May, 1918. [2042]

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE.

CHINESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL.

A NEW CLASS for "BEGINNERS" will commence on TUESDAY, 4th June, 1918, if sufficient support be forthcoming. Application for enrolment and enquiries regarding hours of School, Fees, etc., should be made to the undersigned as early as possible.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Acting Secretary.
Hongkong, 27th May, 1918. [2044]

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.
TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

FINAL.

OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP SINGLES

of the Colony.

S. E. GREEN

NG SZE KWONG,

Best of 5 Sets,

on the

WAR CHARITIES COURT,

ON

FRIDAY, 31st MAY, 1918,

AT 4.30 P.M.

Reserved Stand Seats ... \$1.50

Ring Seats ... 1.00

Enclosure (standing only) ... 50 cts.

Booking at MOUTRIE'S.

P. M. HODGSON,

Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 28th May, 1918. [2066]



NOTICE.

ON and after 1st June, GAP ROCK and WAGLAN will exhibit their Proper Lights from sunset to sunrise.

C. W. BECKWITH,
Commander R.N.

Harbour Master, &c., &c., &c.
Harbour Department,
Hongkong, 28th May, 1918. [2058]



NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers. All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION or PERSONS ORDINANCE 1918.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations. The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

GRACA & CO.

No. 10, WINDHAM STREET,

HONGKONG,

Dealers in

POSTAGE STAMPS, VIEW POST CARDS

FLOWER SEEDS, TOYS, &c.

New Supply of

SEEDS.

[1848]

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG CLUB.
NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Hongkong Club will be held in the Large Dining Room on FRIDAY, the 31st May, 1918, at 5.30 P.M.

BUSINESS:

To confirm the Resolution passed on the 18th inst. as Posted in the Hall of the Club.

By Order,
E. DES VŒUX,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1918. [2037]

WM. POWELL, LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Offices on TUESDAY, the 4th of June, 1918, at 12 o'clock Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and Statement of Accounts to the 28th February, 1918.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 25th of May to the 4th of June, both days inclusive.

H. O. HOLT,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 16th May, 1918. [2029]

THE DAIRY FARM COMPANY,
LIMITED.

THE Business of the manufacture and sale of Ice and the business of Cold Storage hitherto carried on by the HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED, has been acquired and will in future be carried on by the DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED. Consequently upon each acquisition the name of the DAIRY FARM COMPANY, LIMITED, has been duly changed to "THE DAIRY FARM ICE AND COLD STORAGE CO., LTD." and its business will in future be carried on under the new name.

M. MANUK,
Secretary.

THE DAIRY FARM ICE AND COLD
STORAGE CO., LTD.

[1628]

FOR SALE.

\$525 LADY'S MUFF and CAPE
COLLARS of REAL FUR
BLACK SKINS; \$100 PEARL THREAD
NECK-LACE; \$15 PEARL PIN-CRAVAT.
Apply from 12 to 7 P.M., Room 68, KING
EDWARD HOTEL. [2065]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

"COOMBE" No. 173, Coombe Road, with Tennis Court and Vegetable Garden, Electric Light and Telephone, for 5 months from 1st June, 1918.

Apply to—
DEACON, LOOKER, DEACON &
HARSTON, [2060]

TO BE LET

FURNISHED No. 182, THE PEAK, for the months July to October inclusive.

Apply to—
Mr. M. FLETCHER,
Colonial Secretary's Office. [2042]

TO LET.

COMMODOUS and well-fitted SHOP in Alexandra Buildings.

Apply—
SECRETARY,
A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED. [1987]

TO LET.

No. 1, CARNARVON ROAD, Kowloon, well-built EUROPEAN TWO-STORY HOUSE, good locality.

Apply to—
YU KAM HING,
c/o Messrs. JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER. [1898]

TO LET.

HOUSES on Shamen, Canton.

No. 87, THE PEAK, LUSTLEIGH.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-
MENT & AGENCY CO., LTD. [188]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE
Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra Buildings. [2000]

FOR SALE.

"GALESEND," 103, THE PEAK, SIX ROOMS.

Apply—
C. H. GALE,
P.W.D. [1988]

WANTED.

A SMALL OFFICE in the central locality.

Apply to—
Care of "Daily Press" Office. [2041]

INTIMATION

WATSON'S
OLD BROWN
BRANDY

25 YEARS IN WOOD

A. S. WATSON &
CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT

MERCHANTS.

TEL. 618.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 29th MAY, 1918.

THE EXCHANGE OF WAR
PRISONERS.

General satisfaction will be felt at the announcement that the British Government has decided to open negotiations with Germany, through Holland, in the hope of extending the present arrangement for the repatriation and internment in neutral countries of military and non-combatant prisoners-of-war. It will be remembered that an agreement was concluded between the two Powers at The Hague last summer for the removal to Holland and Switzerland of civilians, officers and non-commissioned officers who had been in captivity for eighteen months, and were certified as invalids by a special medical commission; composed, in each instance, of three neutrals and three representatives of the captor States. As the accommodation generously offered by Holland and Switzerland for the purpose of facilitating this arrangement was necessarily limited, it was further agreed that, in order to gain room for others, those prisoners who needed a long time for their complete recovery should be repatriated, the decision in this matter being left to the doctors to whose care they were entrusted, with the proviso that the nationals of one side designated for repatriation should not exceed by 20 per cent. those of the other side. The British Government has repeatedly advocated the release, also, of physically fit combatants for internment in a neutral country, but Germany has always refused to apply this policy to prisoners. So far as the repatriation of combatants is concerned, the Government claims that it has acted throughout in consultation with the Allies. As Lord Newton pointed out in the House of Lords, the exchange of able-bodied prisoners, if adopted generally by the belligerents, would have the effect of prolonging the war. If, however, France

and Germany have agreed to exchange all war-prisoners who have been in captivity over eighteen months, as Lord BURNHAM stated, there seems no reason why steps should not be taken to make a similar arrangement, if possible, for the benefit of British non-commissioned officers and men captured in 1914 and 1915. It is impossible to read of the brutality and systematic ill-treatment to which our gallant soldiers are subjected when they fall into the hands of the enemy without a feeling that every effort should be exerted to secure their release. At the same time it is necessary to guard against this feeling leading us to accept an exchange which would be greatly in favour of Germany, for that would merely serve as an encouragement to the Germans to continue their inhuman conduct. It seems that if all combatants and non-combatants were exchanged the bargain would be perfectly fair, because the numbers would be about equal. Naturally we should very much prefer to keep our own people than enemy subjects, but it is highly probable that Germany is quite content with the existing situation, for while she half-starves her prisoners, and thus compels us to contribute to their support, she knows that ours are well cared for. That is proved by the candid admission of General FREDERICK, the chief German delegate at the Prisoners-of-War Conference at The Hague last year, that the treatment of German prisoners in Great Britain was distinctly superior to that in any other country. The question of the status of our merchant seamen who were captured on vessels armed for defensive purposes presents another difficulty, for the Germans insist on regarding these men as combatants. It is safe to say that the British Nation would not approve of any arrangement which ignored the rights of a class to whom it owes so much, or which gave Germany an advantage of something like twenty to one in the exchange of civilians without reciprocity in the matter of combatants.

At the auction sale of Crown land at Repulse Bay, held at the Public Works Department on Monday, the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd., acquired a site of 15,000 square feet for \$3,000, with the intention, it is understood, of erecting a hotel upon it.

During Sunday and Monday the following cases of communicable diseases were notified in the Colony:—Cerebro-spinal fever 10, (7 deaths); bubonic plague, 2, (1 death); enteric fever 4. All the sufferers, except those from enteric fever, were Chinese.

During the week ended 25th May, the following cases of communicable diseases were notified in the Colony:—Cerebro-spinal fever, 23 (23 deaths); bubonic plague, 13 (6 deaths); enteric fever, 8 (6 deaths); diphtheria 4, (3 deaths); puerperal fever 1 (1 death). All the sufferers were Chinese.

THE SANITARY BOARD AND
NOTIFICATION OF MEASLES.

A REFERENCE TO THE QUESTIONS AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held, yesterday afternoon, at the Sanitary Board Office. Mr. A. Gibson (President) occupied the chair, and there were also present: Messrs. C. G. Alabaster, F. B. L. Bowley, Ng Hon, Tze, Chan Kai Ming, Dr. Ozorio, Mrs. Gale (Medical Officer) and Mrs. A. D. Hickling (Secretary).

Mr. Bowley asked:—When was the question of making measles a notifiable disease brought before the Board? [This had reference to the statement made at the last meeting of the Legislative Council by H.E. the Governor, in reply to the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, that the question of making measles a notifiable disease had been referred to the Sanitary Board, which could not make up its mind on the question.]

The President: The answer is that the question was not brought before the Board, but the Officers of the Board were consulted by H.E. the Governor departmentally, in the first instance, and His Excellency was mistaken in thinking that the Board had been consulted. Dr. Ozorio: May I ask if the Officers of the Board have represented to the Government that measles must be made a notifiable disease? The President: I can hardly answer that question. The rest of the business was formal and the meeting terminated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOSPITAL QUESTION.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir,—Referring to your leader in Monday's issue concerning the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak's questions in the Council re the Hospital accommodation in Hongkong, can you or any of your readers enlighten the public as to the terms upon which the Victoria Hospital was handed over to the Government? According to my recollection, the money was collected to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee, and was on the initiative of Mrs. Bell Irving—devoted in part to the building of a hospital for women and children at the Peak. The idea was that it would be a great boon to the English community to have a place on the hills where maternity cases could be treated under favourable climatic conditions; and also a great boon to the European nursing staff to have a branch hospital to which they could escape from the stifling atmosphere at West Point for a periodical breath of fresh air at the Peak. It would appear that both these benevolent intentions have been entirely set aside, and the place is now run quite regardless of the interests of those for whom the money was originally subscribed. Can the Government do just what they please with the place, or are they bound by any deed of gift or similar instrument?—I am, sir, yours obediently,

"RESIDENT."

[The facts are substantially as stated by our correspondent. We cannot say off-hand, however, whether the precise terms under which the gift was made were set forth in a legal instrument, or whether the donors considered this unnecessary when dealing with the Government. There is no doubt as to the understanding upon which the money was subscribed.—Ed., H.D.P.]

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CANTON, May 28th.

THE CHINA BANK AFFAIRS.—The Taiwan Bank in Shameen has written to the Civil Governor stating that a loan of \$1,500,000 was advanced to the China Bank, to be repaid in monthly instalments of \$100,000, and it is hoped that the amount will be returned by the due date in spite of the fact that the China Bank is closed.

THE CIVIL GOVERNOR.

The Civil Governor's long stay in Shui Hing has given rise to much speculation. His Excellency entertained all his followers on his birthday in Shui Hing. In view of the insufficient military force to protect Shui Hing, he has ordered certain officers to recruit five new regiments of soldiers.

THE CONTROLLERS.

We are informed that Shum Chun-huen, who was elected one of the Controllers of the Confederation Government, has refused the appointment. He considers that he cannot join either of the two opposing parties (North and South) as he has acted in the rôle of mediator.

YUNNAN TROOPS' DEMAND.

We are informed that the whole body of Yunnanese troops in the Province, have requested the Tsuchun to release Chang Hoi-yu, who was arrested and interned by the Tsuchun. It is feared that the Yunnan troops, who were under Chang's command on the Northern borders, will move against the Tsuchun, if this request is not complied with. The Tsuchun has explained that, although Chang is interned, he is employed as the Tsuchun's adviser and is well treated.

THE SALT REVENUE.

A message from Shameen states that the Consular body has objected to the use by the local authorities of the Salt revenue without the consent of Parliament. The revenue should be remitted to the Peking Government, as it has been pledged as security for certain foreign loans.

SOUTHERN TROOPS IN RUPE.

The authorities have received telegrams stating that Yunnan troops have occupied Ichang, and that most of the Northern troops have been compelled to disperse.

LEADERS REPORTED KILLED.

It is reported that Commander Sun Hung-ying was killed by Lung's troops in Luit Chow. Commander Lam Fu, also, was wounded, and many other regimental officers were killed during yesterday's fighting on the Luit Chow front.

COMPANY MEETING.

INDO-CHINA S.N. CO., LTD.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited, was held at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., yesterday at noon. Mr. D. Landale presided, and there were also present:—Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. H. P. White and A. O. Lang (Directors), Messrs. R. Sutherland, H. W. Looker, the Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, Messrs. G. M. Shaw, L. A. P. Leite, R. M. Austin, J. Baptista, S. E. da Luz, A. J. C. da Silva, A. M. da Silva, J. C. Hall, N. MacIntyre, A. B. Stewart, P. M. N. da Silva, G. P. Lammert, K. de C. Longmire, R. E. Macdougall, P. Tester, G. H. Bowker, A. Derby, L. E. Remedios, W. Logan, P. C. Potts, E. M. Raymond, E. Abraham, S. C. Ismail, A. C. Davison, Lo Cheung Shiu, Lau Tak Po, Ho Ki, Lo Man Hin, and Ho Shiu Kit.

The Chairman said:—This meeting has been called to obtain the sanction of shareholders to the agreement which was arrived at on the 6th April between Mr. G. H. Ross, as representing the Company, and the Shipping Controller on behalf of the Government. As you are no doubt aware, from the commencement of the war certain of the Company's steamers were requisitioned by the Government, and have been running as transports ever since. In a letter dated 5th May, 1917, the Government requisitioned all of the remaining sea-going vessels belonging to the Company and they have since the 1st June last been running on Government account. We have not protested against this arrangement, because so long as the Defence of the Realm Act is in force we consider all the resources of the Company should be at the disposal of the country, but the moment the Defence of the Realm Act is no longer necessary we shall leave no stone unturned to recover our steamers. The agreement that has been arrived at on the 6th April is of a very complicated nature, as I have no doubt all of you who have perused the document entitled, "The Heads of Arrangements," which has been on view in our office for some days, will agree. The negotiations leading up to this agreement have been going on for many months past, and from this you may realise the care that has been exercised on both sides. As from date of requisition charter hire will be paid by the Government at Blue Book rates plus an allowance for running in Eastern waters, and this charter hire will be paid to us here in dollars, one half at the rate of the day on which it became due and one half at 2/- to the dollar. I am satisfied that Mr. Ross has obtained for us the best terms possible, and although the negotiations through no fault of the Company have been unnecessarily protracted we consider on the whole we have now been fairly dealt with by the Government. I strongly recommend you therefore to vote for the resolution. I may say that your Directors consider they have full powers to close this agreement without an appeal to the shareholders, but as the issue was of such importance we have deemed it advisable to lay the matter before the shareholders. I now beg to propose:

That Henry Keswick and Charles Henderson, Ross be and they hereby are authorised to enter into an agreement on behalf of the Company with the Shipping Controller and/or with such other Authority of H.M. Government as they think fit as to the conditions which, in accordance with the general heads of arrangement arrived at by them with the Shipping Controller on the 6th April last, shall, as from the 1st June, 1917, govern the use, control or hire by H.M. Government of all or any ships or vessels belonging to or chartered by the Company (other than such ships or vessels as are or may be requisitioned under the ordinary system for full Government employment); and that, prior to any agreement being entered into, they shall have full power to agree as they may think fit to any modification or variation of such heads of arrangement and to any details not embraced or not fully embraced thereby; and that they shall have full power to modify or vary at any time and from time to time as they may think fit the terms of any agreement entered into by them under the authority of this resolution.

The Hon. Mr. Ho Fook seconded.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and there being no further business, the meeting terminated.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 25th May are as follows:—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate for 51 weeks.
This Year	\$13,732	\$280,949
Last Year	12,916	275,266
Increase	816	5,683

THE WAR.

FIERCE GERMAN ATTACKS IN FRANCE AND FLANDERS.

THE SHIPPING SITUATION: NEW CONSTRUCTION EXCEEDS LOSSES.

STARVING BULGARIAN ARMY: DISCONTENTED AND DESIROUS OF PEACE.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT. STRONG GERMAN ATTACKS.

LONDON, May 27th.
12.40 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Strong hostile attacks, preceded by a bombardment of great intensity, developed this morning on wide fronts against the Anglo-French between Rheims and Soissons and against the French between Loos and Voormezele.

There was considerable hostile artillery firing on Sunday and at night on the British front.

FIERCE FIGHTING IN FLANDERS.

LONDON, May 27th.
4.30 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, reporting on the 27th inst., states:—Early this morning the enemy heavily bombarded great depths of the line from south of the Ypres Canal to Cudendorp and Westoutre. The infantry attacked at 4.30, the Germans apparently attempting to recover ground which the French took on the 20th inst. around Loos and La Clytte. It is reported that they made slight progress in places. Heavy fighting is progressing.

There is no reason to assume at present that the operation is more than local, designed to restore or improve the enemy's positions at Scherpenberg and Montrouge.

The Belgians defeated all the German attempts to push back their defences between Ypres and the Holthulst Forest.

The weather is fairly fine and clear in Flanders.

BELGIAN REPORT.

LONDON, May 27th.
5.45 a.m.

A Belgian *communiqué* states:—During the night, after a violent bombardment, German "shock-troops" attacked the Belgian advanced positions between the Passchendaele Canal and St. George's, and momentarily penetrated our trenches. They were ejected, leaving 15 prisoners.

An attempted hostile attack in the region of Boesinghe failed under our barrage.

EARLIER CABLES.

HEAVY GAS-SHELLING BY THE ENEMY.

LONDON, May 26th.
9.55 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The French repulsed a raid northward of Bailleul.

The shelling reported last night at Villers-Bretonneux was heavy, consisting of gas-shells.

The enemy this morning heavily gas-shelled westward of Hinges.

No enemy raids were successful in the main purpose of getting prisoners, and identifications in a diary found upon a prisoner reveals the loss our airmen are inflicting upon the enemy.

He mentions, *inter alia*, "two non-commissioned officers and 14 soldiers were killed by an English bomb near Lestreem." Incassant machine-gunning by our airmen along routes which the enemy troops and transport have to move has also proved very deadly.

AERIAL OPERATIONS.

Flying was only possible during fine intervals yesterday. We dropped over 300 bombs on billets in the neighbourhood of Armentières and Morville, an ammunition dump at Varsenaeere and on Bruges docks.

We brought down nine and drove down two uncontrolled. No British machines are missing. Our night-fliers dropped over six tons of bombs on Peronne, Bapaume and Maricourt. All our machines returned.

ENEMY INCREASES ARTILLERY FIRE.

LONDON, May 26th.
11.35 p.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, states:—Since last evening the enemy's artillery fire has markedly increased at various places. Villers-Bretonneux, Scarpe Valley, Aucion-Villers, Englebeimer, Mailly, Maillet and Martinsart have been bombarded with gas and high-explosive shells.

There were also prolonged outbursts of intense gunfire from Festubert to the Yser. During the afternoon the uproar lulled, and there is no reason to assume that the bombardments herald an imminent resumption of the offensive.

LATEST CABLES.

FRENCH FRONT.

BOSCHE IS "YELLOW WHEN CORNERED."

LONDON, May 27th.
11.20 a.m.

Reuter's Correspondent at American Headquarters shows that the Germans bank upon attacking fairly heavily at certain points of the American sector. In one of these fights the Americans suffered considerable losses. The action, of course, was fought under conditions imposed by the enemy, and on ground which the Americans considered was tactically unound. The Germans sent over a heavy barrage, and onlaid the Americans on either flank. The latter fought like lions, not yielding an inch of ground, and they inflicted very severe losses on the enemy.

The American impression of the Bosche is, "He is yellow when cornered," but they do not underate his gas.

AMERICANS' FIRST EXPERIENCE OF MUSTARD SHELLS.

LONDON, May 26th.
12.25 a.m.

Mustard shells were the Americans' first experience, but, disarming as these were, the prime poison-gas, phosgene, outdid their imagination of murderous devilry, invisible gas being used. The explosion of gas-shells is not noticed amid the surrounding din.

ARTILLERY ACTIVE.

PARIS, May 27th.

A *communiqué* states there was active artillery firing north and south of the Aves, but no infantry action.

GERMAN'S ATTACKING ON A VERY WIDE FRONT.

LONDON, May 27th.
4.30 p.m.

A French *communiqué* states:—During the latter half of the night the Germans very violently bombarded the entire region between the Forest of Pinon and Rheims. The enemy this morning attacked on a very wide front between these two points.

Franco-British troops are resisting the German drive with their customary gallantry. The battle is progressing.

There was lively artillery during the night in Champagne, to the right of the Meuse, in the forest of Appremont and in the Woivre region.

Local enemy attacks in the forest of Appremont were repelled, after a fight, with enemy losses.

Enemy attempts, in the region of Lamey and north-east of Badonvillers and Lalso, failed.

We took prisoners.

BOMBARDMENT OF PARIS RESUMED.

PARIS, May 27th.

After an interval of several weeks the long-range bombardment of Paris recommenced to-day.

EARLIER CABLES. FRENCH PATROLS CAPTURE PRISONERS.

PARIS, May 26th.

A *communiqué* states:—There was fairly great reciprocal artillery firing at Hangard Wood and south of the Aves. An enemy raid, after lively bombardment, on our posts in the Orville-Soul sector was resultless.

Enemy attempts in Champagne and the Vosges also failed.

Our patrols and detachments took prisoners, notably in the region of Arlette.

Aerial Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ALLIED AERIAL REPRISALS GERMAN JOURNAL ADVOCATES UNDERSTANDING.

AMSTERDAM, May 27th.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* is greatly concerned at the prospect of severe Allied aerial reprisals. It asks whether Count Hertling would consider it a sign of weakness to suggest to the enemy an understanding on the subject.

The paper says it has always been its conviction that the military advantages of these raids on the peaceful homeland were insignificant compared with their frightfulness.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SUBMARINE SUPERIORITY

LONDON, May 27th.

The sinking of a German submarine-cruiser in the Atlantic has attracted great attention, as it is the first published evidence that Great Britain also possesses submarines capable of cruising far.

Mr. Archibald Hurd writes:—It is no secret to the Germans that soon after the outbreak of war numerous large submarines were laid down in Great Britain, and that many have been hunting the German pirates for months past. They have not merely been most successful in fighting the U-boats, but have proved most useful in convoy work and have greatly contributed to unnerving the German crews, who are now finding that the cruiser-submarines, which are Germany's last hope, bring increased danger to them personally, owing to their unwieldiness and slower submergence.

NAVAL AIRMEN'S ACTIVITIES

LONDON, May 27th.

The Admiralty announce that between May 23rd and 26th, our naval airmen's operations were hindered by weather conditions. Nevertheless, we bombed Mariakerke and Zeebrugge, where bombs were observed to fall near the lock-gates and canal derivation.

We dropped nearly three tons of bombs on the Bruges docks between the night of the 22nd and 23rd insts. All our machines returned.

In home waters, numerous flights, in escort patrol and other anti-submarine duties, were carried out.

Submarines were sighted and attacked, and enemy mines were located.

Allied aircraft successfully bombed the Austrian base at Cattaro, obtaining a direct hit on the barracks occupied by submarine crews, where a fire broke out.

Italian Front

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIANS INFLICT SEVERE LOSSES.

LONDON, May 27th.
7.10 p.m.

An Italian official message states:—We consecrated the dawn of the fourth year of war with a victory. The operation continued uninterruptedly on Saturday and Sunday.

We stormed Zigolonmount, the present lake basin on the Monticello-pas, and inflicted severe losses.

The prisoners taken so far number 870, and the booty includes 12 guns and a great quantity of all kinds of material.

The enemy twice strongly attacked our position at Montecorno. Our counter-attack drove him back.

We brought down 8 aeroplanes.

General

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NATIONALIST CONFERENCE AND SINN FEIN.

SINN FEIN CANDIDATES.

LONDON, May 27th.

Mr. John Dillon, M.P., presided at a Nationalist Conference at Ballyboro, at which it was decided to oppose Sinn Fein candidates.

Mr. Dillon said that, though he did not approve of the arrest of Griffith, who was the Sinn Fein candidate for East Cavan, he believed that the Government thereby helped the Sinn Fein, and it would be regarded as a sign of weakness if the Nationalist candidates were withdrawn.

Mr. Dillon added that Mr. Lloyd George was much mistaken if he thought the statement about the Sinn Fein conspiracy which was published on Saturday would be accepted as evidence by fair-minded men anywhere in the world.

REPUDIATION OF SINN FEIN ALLIANCE.

Mr. Dillon said:—"It is absurd to say that I have broken an alliance with the Sinn Fein, because an alliance never existed. Thank God, I am not a Sinn Feiner, and I never mean to be one." Sinn Fein plays into the hands of the Government. Its master passion is a hatred of the Irish party. Many Sinn Feiners are more anxious to destroy the Irish party than to free Ireland, and to do this Sinn Fein is prepared to accept help from any quarter."

SOUTH SLAV MOVEMENT IN AUSTRIA.

EMPEROR RECEIVES DEPUTATIONS.

AMSTERDAM, May 27th.

The importance of the South Slav movement in Austria is evidenced by a Vienna telegram reporting that the Emperor and Premier Seidler have received two deputations, one of the Slovene Stauer party, which advocates the maintenance of the Austrian imperial system, and the other of Styria, Carniola and Trieste Germans. Both emphasized the danger of the South Slav propaganda and the necessity of encouraging the German element.

The Emperor, in replying, said that the grounds of racial friction must be removed, but whatever changes occurred in the State institutions the firm framework of the State must not be loosened, and the sacred inheritance of the glorious past must be preserved. The Government would, therefore, combat to the utmost agitation menacing the strength and unity of the State.

His Majesty admitted that much in the conditions of the national cultural development of individual races in the monarchy needed improvement, but a solution was only possible within Austrian limits. It must not in the slightest prejudice the historic peculiarities of the different States, the firmness of their union, or the unity and strength of the monarchy.

His Majesty exhorted the deputation not to be anxious lest the agitation against the maintenance of these principles would spread unhindered.

The Emperor, addressing the deputation of the German Women's League of Styria, said a great and important share was destined for the German people in Austria worthy of their great achievements in the war. The rights of the German people and conditions requisite for the preservation of the development of their nationality in Austria would never be prejudiced.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

APPEAL TO BELLIGERENTS.

LONDON, May 27th.

The Geneva International Red Cross publishes details of the Franco-German agreement concerning the exchange of prisoners, and appeals to the remaining belligerents to conclude similar agreements, including the following rules:—All military prisoners to be exchangeable after eighteen months. No civilians to be made prisoners. Deportations to be abolished.

SAND AND GRAVEL TRAFFIC RESUMED.

AMSTERDAM, May 27th.

The *Telegraaf* states that the transit of sand and gravel from Germany to Belgium has been resumed. The first ship has passed Lobith en route to Ghent.

CAPETOWN TO UPPER CONGO THROUGH RAILWAY COMPLETED.

LONDON, May 27th.

The Katanga railway, in Belgian Congo, was completed on May 22nd, giving through communication by rail from Capetown to Bukama, on the Upper Congo.

AUSTRALIAN AFFAIRS.

BUTTER SURPLUS.

MELBOURNE, May 27th.

In the House of Representatives it was announced that the sale of next year's exportable surplus of butter to the Government was being negotiated.

COMMONWEALTH'S TOTAL DEBT.

Mr. Watt, the Federal Treasurer, stated that the total debt of the Commonwealth was \$609,000,000, including \$148,000,000 in Commonwealth War Loans and \$461,000,000 in War Loans from the Imperial Government. This represented an annual interest of \$25,000,000.

SCOTLAND'S MESSAGE.

PRIME MINISTER IMPRESSED.

LONDON, May 27th.

Before returning to London from Scotland, the Prime Minister, in an interview in the *Glasgow Herald*, said he had been very much impressed by the determination of the Scottish people to see the war through. The message that Scotland had given him was "Stand fast."

The Prime Minister continued:—"Scotland is as firm as her mountains. If there is any change between last year and this year it is even a deeper note of resolve, of absolute unity, a quiet determination, and the subordination of everything to the prosecution of the war. The people of Scotland have got their minds fixed upon defeating the terrible menace threatening the world, and they decline to consider anything else until this is done, and they are absolutely right."

STRANGE EPIDEMIC IN SPAIN.

SEVERAL THEATRES CLOSED.

MADRID, May 27th.

King Alfonso, the Premier, other Ministers and thirty per cent. of the population of Spain are suffering from an unknown epidemic. The symptoms are high fever, pains in the chest and diarrhoea. The disease is of a mild nature.

The new disease has not yet resulted in serious consequences. A recommended preventive precaution is open-air life as far as possible.

Several theatres have been closed owing to the illness of members of the staffs. The tram service is similarly handicapped.

NAVY AND MERCHANT SERVICE.

FIRST SEA LORD ON THEIR CLOSE RELATIONSHIP.

LONDON, May 27th.

First Sea Lord of the Admiralty, Admiral Hensley, addressing at the Mansion House a centenary gathering of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society, referred to the close relationship which the present war had restored between the men of the Merchant Service and Naval men. He said that there were 200,000 merchant sailors and 80,000 fishermen at present serving under the White Ensign who had been assimilated into the fighting Fleet, and, notwithstanding the depletions and tremendous difficulties which the Mercantile Marine had suffered, it continued business as undauntedly as the Naval men, whose moral was better than ever, despite submarinism.

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS.

SIXTY PER CENT. RETURN TO OLD EMPLOYERS.

LONDON, May 27th.

The Minister of Labour, Mr. G. H. Roberts, speaking at Bournemouth and referring to demobilisation, said that 400,000 discharged soldiers had been already dealt with, of whom 60 per cent. had returned to their old employers.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

A BOLSHIEVİK THREAT.

MOSCOW, May 27th.

The *Pravda*, the Bolshievik organ, says:—"Germany's violation of the Brest-Litovsk Peace Treaty will inevitably face the Government with the necessity of taking advantage of the military aid of one Imperialist group against the other."

EX-MINISTER ABSCONDS.

AMSTERDAM, May 27th.

M. Kovaloski, Minister of Agriculture in the late Ukrainian Government, has absconded with five million roubles.

INCREASE OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT ELEMENTS.

LONDON, May 27th.

A Moscow message, dated May 21st, states that the refusal of the peasants to provide foodstuffs and the constant increase of anti-Government bourgeois elements in the villages were discussed at a meeting of Executive Soviets. President Sverdloff said that if the Bolshievik authorities did not wish to be surprised they must combat a dangerous coalition of peasants and bourgeoisie by exciting the poor against the rich, thus provoking civil war, as they did in the towns. The Executive adopted a resolution by M. Sverdloff that it was urgent to arm the poor peasants to fight the rural bourgeoisie.

EARLIER CABLES.

THE GERMANS AND THE RUSSIAN FLEET AT SEBASTOPOL.

AMSTERDAM, May 26th.

The *Cologne Gazette* reports that two big Russian battleships and eight destroyers escaped from Sebastopol before the Germans occupied the city. The Germans captured the rest of the fleet.

OBSCURE POINTS IN THE BREST-LITOVSK TREATY.

LONDON, May 27th.

A Russian wireless message, referring to the fact that Germany has agreed to form a special Commission to clear up obscure points in the Brest-Litovsk Peace Treaty, the Foreign Commissary has proposed that precedence be given to the situations in the Caucasus, Crimea, Esthonia, and Livonia; to the demarcation of the frontier, the determination of which was interrupted at Pskov owing to Russo-German disagreement; also to misunderstandings regarding war-prisoners, and to the fundamental principles respecting inter-economic relations.

GERMANS SINK RUSSIAN STEAMER.

MOSCOW, May 27th.

A German submarine sank a Russian steamer in the White Sea.

GENERAL NEWS.

LONDON, May 26th.

A Moscow despatch, dated May 23rd, states that the Caucasian Government's forces have recaptured the town of Sukhumkale.

The Bolshievik organ *Pravda* states that the peasant insurgents in Ukraine and the Government of Chernoff and Poltava have defeated Skoropadsky's Germano-Ukrainian troops. The Ukrainian railway men, who struck work in order to assist the peasants, have been replaced by Germans.

"INDEPENDENCE" OF ESTHONIA AND LIVONIA.

KUEHLMANN AND HERTLING AT VARIANCE.

AMSTERDAM, May 26th.

Forwaerts says Baron Kuehlmann threatened to resign if, despite the Brest-Litovsk Treaty, Esthonia and Livonia were taken from Russia. Nevertheless, Count Hertling informed the so-called delegates of the two provinces, whom he received at German Headquarters on April 21st, that Germany was ready to support their request for severance from Russia and benevolently examine the question of a personal union with Prussia.

Germany has now informed the Russian Government of the "independence" of Esthonia and Livonia.

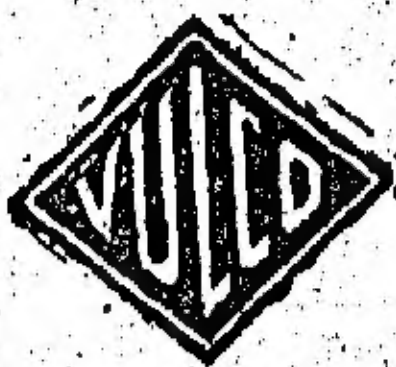
STARVATION IN BULGARIA.

ATHENS, May 26th.

A Bulgarian deserter states that there have been many deaths from starvation in Bulgaria. The Government barbarously represses constant outbreaks. The Bulgarians desire peace. The Bulgarian forces in Macedonia are so weak that the 1918 class is sent to the front-line before being properly trained. The Bulgarian army is so ill-fed that the men seek an opportunity to desert.

(Continued on Page 6.)

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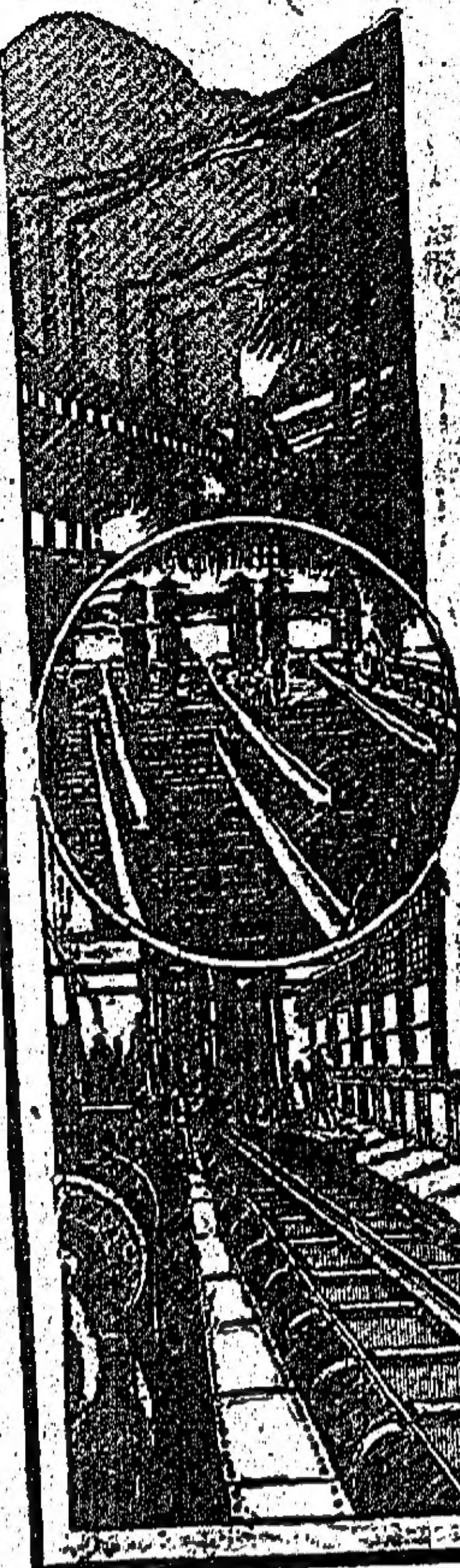
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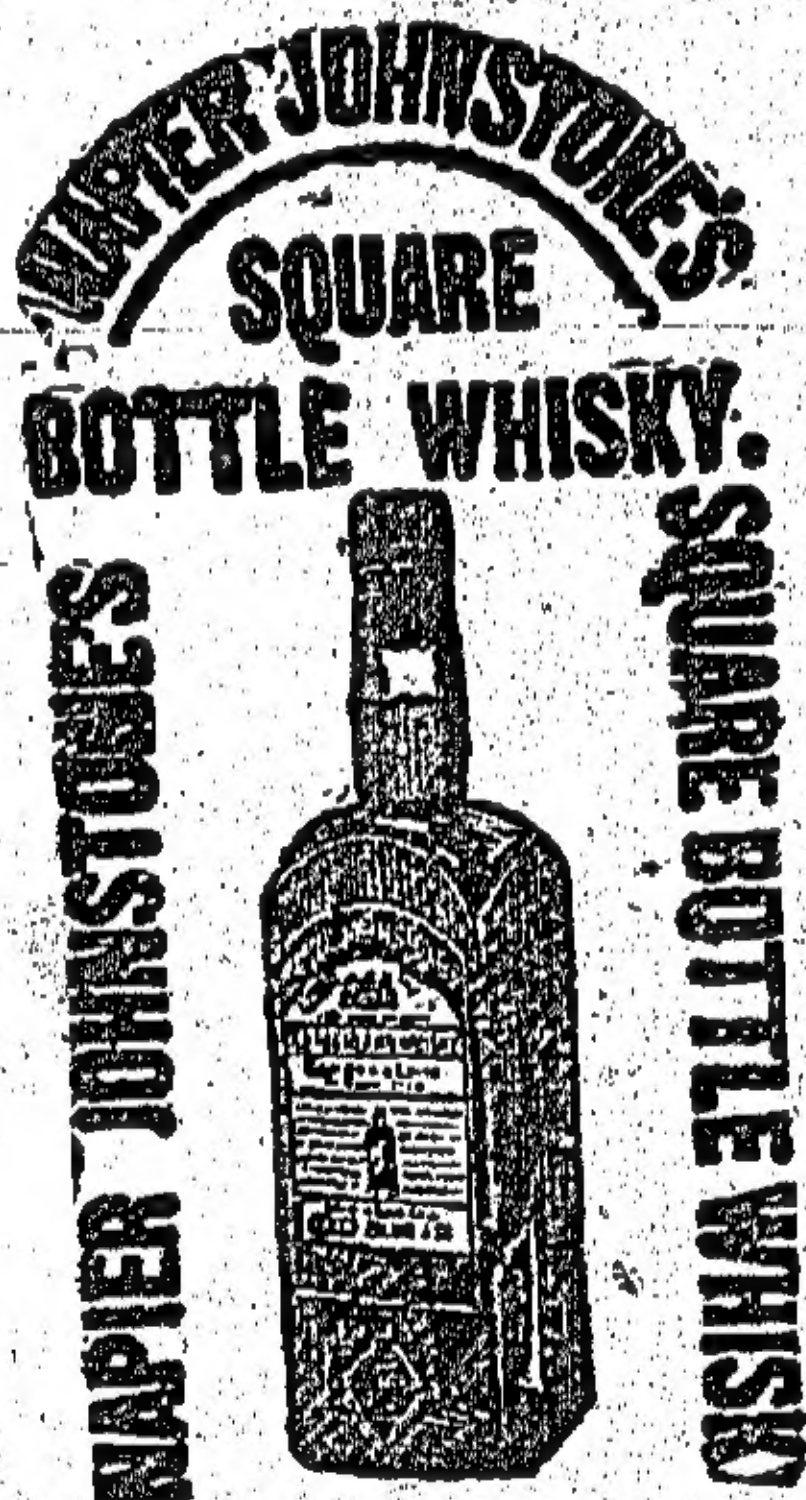
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THE WAR.

(Continued from Page 5.)

General.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
THE SINN FEIN PLOT.
AMERICAN COMMENT.

New York, May 27th.
Newspaper editorials, notably those of the *New York World* and *New York Herald*, declare that the British statement regarding the Sinn Fein plots amply justifies the action taken. The papers condemn the treasonableness of the Irish Americans toward the United States in assisting the Sinn Feiners. "Any person believing that Germany would be any kind of friend to Ireland except the kind of friend it has shown itself to be to Russia and Roumania should be put into a strait-jacket."

AMERICA AND THE WAR.
U.S.A. TROOPS WILL SOON BE FIGHTING ON ITALIAN FRONT.

New York, May 26th.
Mr. Baker, the War Secretary, has announced that American troops will soon be participating in the fighting on the Italian front.

FRICITION BETWEEN MEXICO AND CUBA.

LONDON, May 28th.
A curious situation has arisen between Mexico and Cuba, which have mutually withdrawn their diplomatic representatives but, apparently, without formally rupturing relations.
The Mexican Foreign Minister admits that tension exists owing to the steps taken by Cuba in consequence of the state of war affecting Mexican interests, but hopes the matter will be cleared up and the solidarity of Latin-American maintained.

THE OUTPUT OF PLANTATION RUBBER.
VIEWS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RUBBER GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.

LONDON, May 27th.
At the annual meeting of the Rubber Growers' Association in London, the Chairman, Sir Edward Rossing, said the association had made a proposal to the Colonial Office which, if materialized, would link up all existing rubber research schemes in the Colonies and Dependencies and enable research proper to be carried out alongside the study of pressing questions, such as that of disease.
It would not be safe to ignore the danger of synthetic rubber, although there was no sign that Germany was able to produce it on a commercial scale.
The War Relief Funds for Ceylon and British Malaya needed increased support.

The amount of restriction on production up to the present promised only 20,000 tons, leaving the world's crop for 1918 at 205,000 tons against a consumption of 160,000 tons. Production could be reduced by concerted action with the aid of the different Governments, whereby each estate would be rationed regarding its output on the basis of permitting the survival of all, or failing some such arrangement, it would be done as a result of financial stringency, because it was not unlikely that much credit would be forthcoming in order to produce unshippable rubber. Owing to the very altered conditions, companies who agreed to a 20 per cent. restriction could hardly be expected to continue to support that proposal.
In view of the seriousness of the position the Council has asked Mr. Walter Long to receive a deputation.

THE SHIPPING SITUATION.
ENCOURAGING STATEMENT BY FRENCH MINISTER OF MARINE.

PARIS, May 26th.
In the Senate the Minister of Marine, in the course of a statement, said that the new engines which the Allies were using to sweep the seas had enabled them to secure decisive results since January.
During April Great Britain and the United States alone had built 40,000 tons of shipping in excess of enemy sinkings. There had also been a considerable increase in the restoration to service of damaged shipping during the last four months. In England the tonnage thus restored exceeded half-a-million tons weekly, while last week the total touched 589,000 tons. Similarly France had regained 260,000 tons in one month.
There were indications that the enemy submarines destroyed in May would show a very much better total than in April.

UNHEALTHINESS OF BRITISH WATERS FOR ENEMY SUBMARINES.

LONDON, May 26th.
In connection with the sinking of the German submarine-cruiser, a Naval correspondent of *Lloyd's Weekly News* says that in view of the unhealthiness of British waters for enemy submarines, which has caused a marked decline in the moral of submarine crews, the Germans have concentrated their efforts on more distant lines of communication and may be expected to appear in the neighborhood of Gibraltar, off the coast of Spain, in the vicinity of the Scilly Isles, and in the South Atlantic. The sinking of the submarine-cruiser shows that the Admiralty are prepared for this development.

MAJOR LORD LASCELLES.
ACQUITTED BY COURT-MARTIAL.

Major Viscount Lascelles, the heir of the Earl of Harwood, and an officer in the Grenadier Guards, was tried by a district court-martial, presided over by Lieut-General Sir E. Codrington, which sat at Westminster Guildhall on April 24th, on a charge of striking Mr. Charles Penley, the assistant-manager of the Alhambra Theatre, on March 9th. He was further charged with using insulting language to Mr. Penley, and with interfering with Captain Corbett, an assistant provost-marshal, in the execution of his duties.

Mr. Penley said on the night of March 9th he was standing in the entrance to the theatre when his attention was called to a party of officers, one of whom was subsequently arrested, in evening dress, and bumped into witness and struck him.

In answer to Mr. Patrick Hastings, appearing for the accused, witness said he thought at the time that he was struck by another man than the accused.

Mr. Edward Foster, the manager, said he saw the party of officers go along the corridor of the theatre and after one of the number had been arrested he heard the accused say to Mr. Penley that "he had a damn good mind to kick him." The other officers were also abusive. When the arrested officer had been taken away Mr. Penley came from the street end of the corridor, and was surrounded by the officers, who numbered about a dozen. Witness was sure as to the nature of the abusive word used by the accused.

Harry Frankland, an attendant at the theatre, said he saw the accused knock into Mr. Penley. "Nobody could have pushed the accused into Mr. Penley. Mr. Penley and accused were in advance of the rest of the officers. Some of the latter stopped in the corridor and spoke to witness. Witness said Mr. Penley the accused were walking together when the latter bumped into Mr. Penley. He did not agree that Mr. Penley was standing against the wall when he was bumped into."

A.P.M. KNOCKED DOWN.

Captain Ross Corbett, Assistant Provost-Marshal, said he was the officer who arrested Captain McCall at the Alhambra Theatre on the evening of March 9th. As he got his prisoner away in a taxi-cab the accused took hold of Captain McCall. Witness told accused that he must not interfere, as he was an Assistant Provost-Marshal. Accused replied: "If you talk to me like that I will have you placed in arrest."

In answer to Mr. Hastings, witness said he next saw accused at the court of inquiry. He had no doubt that he was the man who interfered with him. He had not seen the accused between the time of the incident in the theatre and the inquiry into the attempt to rescue Capt. McCall. It was true that on that occasion he asked the accused to remove his cap in order to be sure that he could identify him. He was quite certain that the man who tried to rescue Captain McCall had no opera cloak on his arm and no opera hat. Witness was knocked down, and did not see other civilians besides the accused in the passage.

In reply to members of the court, Captain Corbett said the accused had not a hat or coat with him.
Sergeant-Major Prichard, who assisted the Provost-Marshal to arrest Captain McCall, said he thought Lord Lascelles had with him an opera cloak and hat. He was certain it was the accused who tried to pull Capt. McCall away.

This concluded the case for the prosecution.
Sergeant Withington, of the Military Police, said he heard accused say, "I am Lord Lascelles. If you talk like that to me I shall place you under arrest."

DEFENDANT'S EXPLANATION.

Accused, giving evidence, said he was acting major in the Grenadier Guards, and came home from France in January to take a course at Aldershot. On the night in question a party of officers held a dinner and then went to the Alhambra. His seat in the stalls was the second from the end of a row near the exit to Charing-cross-road. In consequence of being told that Captain McCall was in trouble, he went out of the house with Colonel Duff. He carried his hat with him. When he got through the swing doors he saw a crowd of officers and civilians in the passage. The officers were not all of witness's party. He saw a civilian come towards him whom he now knew to be Mr. Penley. The civilian brushed by him and struck him. Witness thought, at the time, intentionally. He called to Captain McCall to keep quiet. Someone then said, "You are a major; you can put the Provost-Marshal under arrest." Witness turned to the speaker and said, "You are only a captain, and you cannot in any case. Don't make a fool of yourself." Witness then went back to his seat in the theatre. He denied striking or hustling Mr. Penley, or of being a party to hustling. He also denied striking or touching the Assistant Provost-Marshal. He knew McCall well and liked him, and was sorry for the trouble he was in that night. He was only out of his seat for two minutes. There was no suggestion from the Assistant Provost-Marshal that he (accused) had had anything to do with the attempt to rescue McCall. He was certain that the furthest distance he was from the door of the auditorium was four paces, while Captain McCall was, all the time he was there, at the Charing-cross end of the passage. Until the charge was made against him some time after the night of the event he had no suspicion that such a charge could be made against him.

Major L. Mackinnon, of the Gordon Highlanders, who, in his opinion, was only out of his seat about one minute. He never went out of his seat again.
Captain J. A. Kirkwood, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who was one of the party, said he sat next to the last witness. When witness went out

(Continued at foot of next column.)

FORCIBLE FEEDING IN PRISON.
DEATH OF A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR.

A verdict that death was due to pneumonia, accelerated by forcible feeding, but that no blame attached to the prison authorities, was returned at an inquest at Hull on March 22nd on the body of Edward Burns, 35, a weaver, of Fails-worth, Manchester, a conscientious objector, who died in prison, where he was undergoing a sentence of two years' imprisonment passed on him at a Court-martial in November last.

The Governor of the goal, Mr. H. Hughesdon, said that Burns was well until March 16th, when he ceased to take food, giving the reason that he was doing it to get out of prison. On March 16th Dr. Howlett informed witness that he considered forcible feeding was necessary, and gave a certificate that Burns was physically fit. The prisoner was forcibly fed twice a day on March 11th, 12th, and 13th, and died on the morning of the 14th. On the 13th Dr. Howlett mentioned that the deceased was suffering from pneumonia.

In answer to Mr. Owen, who represented the relatives, the Governor said that in consequence of a letter written in February by Burns to a young lady, in which he complained of his state of health, Dr. Howlett examined him, and certified that he was in good health. Mr. Owen read a subsequent letter in which Burns said he was not getting pessimistic, but he felt at times that death was the great deliverer in more ways than one.

Dr. Pigeon, who made a *post-mortem* examination, said there were traces of a milky fluid in the bronchial tubes. Death was due to pneumonia, consequent upon the inhalation of some irritating fluid into the bronchial tubes. Milk would be an irritant fluid, but was the proper food to administer. Dr. Howlett agreed that if the feeding-tube had been longer the man's respiration might not have been affected by the food passing down.

KILLING NO MANSLAUGHTER.

Supposing, says a contributor to the *Daily News*, a doctor testified that the death of an ordinary well-to-do patient was due to "pneumonia consequent upon the inhalation of some irritating fluid into the bronchial tubes," supposing milk, an irritant fluid, was found in the dead man's lungs, supposing that the doctor who administered the milk admitted that if he had used a longer feeding tube respiration might not have been affected, would the jury find that no blame attached to the persons responsible for the administration of the food? The answer to these questions—an obvious one—is the only possible commentary on the verdict at Hull on the death of Edward Burns, the conscientious objector. If the Government are prepared to condemn the killing of these people, could they not devise some form which would not be quite such an odious, hypocritical travesty of justice as this?

of the theatre the accused was still in his seat. He did not see McCall taken away, because the Assistant Provost-Marshal gave him a push and told him to get out of the way or he would be arrested. He thereupon returned to his seat, and never saw the accused in the passage at all.

Captain R. Heywood, of the Seaforth Highlanders, said he went into the corridor during the disturbance. He called out to the accused, "Why don't you put the A.P.M. under arrest?" and he called it out quite loudly. The accused replied, telling witness not to be a fool.

REUNITING EVIDENCE.

Colonel G. B. Duff, who has lost an arm in action, was the next witness. He said he was the senior officer present at the theatre. He saw an attendant come and speak to Captain McCall, and saw him go out. He then went to the back of the house, and on returning was told that McCall had been arrested. He saw no fracas, and, as senior officer, he received no complaint as to the conduct of Lord Lascelles. He went next day to see Major Wedderburn in regard to McCall. At the time he had no idea of any possible charge against Lord Lascelles.

Mr. Hastings read a report upon the accused made by Colonel Duff on the work of his instructional course. He was described as a good officer, fit to command a battalion. He had seen two years' service in France, and had won the Croix de Guerre.

Captain McCall, who appeared under escort, said he was convicted of drunkenness, for striking an A.P.M., and resisting escort. He said he heard the accused call out to him to keep quiet. Accused was never near witness.

Colonel Sir Henry Streatfield, commanding a regiment of Grenadier Guards, gave the accused an excellent character. He had joined the regiment in 1902, and served for three years. He was aide-de-camp to the Governor-General of Canada for four years, and on the outbreak of war joined the Yeomanry. He had a distinguished career at the front, and had rendered "devoted and gallant service" to the country. He had been previously court-martialled for writing letters home expressing his opinion upon the doings of newspaper correspondents.

Mr. Hastings, addressing the Court, contended that if the evidence of the last three witnesses could be relied upon, it would have been an impossibility for the accused to have touched Captain Corbett. He contended that it was a case of mistaken identity. All the witnesses agreed that the accused had his hat and coat with him, whereas the Assistant Provost-Marshal had said he was perfectly certain that the man who got hold of him had no hat or coat with him.

The Court retired to consider its verdict, and on its returning the President announced that the accused was found not guilty and acquitted.

At the conclusion of the trial Lieut. Eastwood, who had acted as prosecutor, said it was desired that publicity should be given to the case in the interests of the accused, and he would like to say as an officer who had served under the accused how delighted he was with the decision of the Court.

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"AMAKURA MARU" ... SUNDAY, 2nd June, at Noon

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"BOSHU MARU" ... THURSDAY, 6th June, at 3 A.M.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS

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